



EDUCATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR NON-FIDER INTERIOR DESIGN PROGRAM REVIEW

1. Introduction:

- 1.1 Pursuant to Code of Alabama 34-15-B-6 (b) (1) (c) applicants for registration for Interior Design shall be graduates of a Foundation for Interior Design Education Research (FIDER) accredited Interior Design Program or its equivalent based on criteria set by content standards of FIDER. These Educational Guidelines establish the Alabama State Board of Registration for Interior Design equivalent curricula for non-FIDER Interior Design programs as deemed by the Board.

2. Requirements:

- 2.1 An Interior Design program whose graduates received their degree within the four (4) years prior to the Interior Design program being accredited by FIDER and as documented via FIDER records shall fulfill the requirements for educational attainment.
- 2.2 An Interior Design program whose graduates received their degree within the four (4) years prior to a Board approved equivalent Interior Design program shall fulfill the requirements for educational attainment.
- 2.3 An Interior Design program whose graduates have not received their degree from a FIDER accredited Interior Design program shall fulfill the requirements for educational attainment only if the graduate has successfully passed the NCIDQ and held a valid certificate of registration from August 1, 2001 until December 31, 2002.
- 2.4 An individual who has not received their undergraduate degree from a FIDER accredited or Board approved Interior Design program shall fulfill the requirements for educational attainment only if the graduate has successfully passed the NCIDQ and holds an earned graduate degree in Interior Design from a current FIDER accredited or Board approved graduate Interior Design program.
- 2.5 An Interior Design program whose graduates have not received their degree from a FIDER accredited Interior Design program, shall meet the equivalency education requirements outlined below:

- 2.5a. Interior Design programs or curricula shall include a minimum of 48 semester hours or 60 quarter hours of interior design course work. To be considered for equivalency, Interior Design programs shall be offered in an accredited institution that is clearly identified and labeled as an Interior Design program or major. To be eligible for consideration as an Interior Design curriculum program or major, the applicant's post secondary course of study shall contain interior design or design related course hours that include or cover the topics or subject matter as identified in FIDER standards in place at the time of review. Such an Interior Design program shall specify in institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to educate and train professional interior designers, shall maintain a recognizable organizational entity within the institution, shall have a curriculum with an integrated, organized sequence of study, and shall have an identifiable faculty.
- 2.6. Interior design programs not currently accredited by FIDER shall obtain a copy of current professional level FIDER standards. Current FIDER standards are available from the Foundation for Interior Design Education Research, 146 Monroe Center, NW, #1318, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-2822, (616) 458-0400, www.fider.org.
- 2.6.a Interior Design programs shall complete a self-assessment using FIDER's Program Evaluation Report (PER), Sections I-IV. Members of the Board shall be prohibited in providing advice or assistance to Interior Design programs during this process. The Interior Design program self-assessment shall identify specific areas deemed in compliance with FIDER standards (PER Section II, Compliance with Standards) and those areas considered not in full compliance with FIDER standards (PER Section III, Analysis of Strengths and Weaknesses).
- 2.7. Interior Design programs shall provide their plans in meeting those FIDER standards identified above as non-compliant or in partial compliance (PER Section III) and the time frame to bring those standards into compliance (PER Section IV, Plans for Future Development and Significant Changes), where such time frame shall not exceed three (3) full academic years after initial approval of the self-assessment. Interior Design programs shall have six (6) academic semesters or nine (9) academic quarters, not including summer sessions, to submit their Interior Design program's initial self-analysis. The date shall be after the adoption of these guidelines as approved by the Board. The self-study analysis shall be submitted as outlined above using the Board approved form and shall be accompanied by the current fee for review of a non-FIDER accredited Interior Design program as established by the Board.

2.8 Interior Design programs shall submit five (5) copies of the Interior Design program self-analysis to the Board. In addition, project assignments for each course shall be submitted along with ten (10) to fifteen (15) examples of student work (e.g., small photos, reduced drawings, etc.) for each standard. Project examples must be clearly labeled with the course name(s) and number(s). Such project assignments and student work shall be returned upon request. If deemed necessary, the committee may request additional information for clarification. The Education Committee shall make a recommendation to the Board for their enactment, establishing such equivalency. Interior Design programs deemed equivalent by the Board shall hold such status for a six (6) year period. Interior Design programs shall submit an updated self-analysis for reestablishment of equivalency at the beginning of the sixth year of equivalency. Such self-analysis shall use the current FIDER standards in effect at that time or provide evidence of successful accreditation from FIDER itself. Interior Design programs that are currently accredited by FIDER but fail to maintain such status in the future, shall comply with the guidelines herein in order to establish an equivalency status.